

REMARKS

The Examiner, in paragraph 4 of the Office Action of November 1, 2005, indicates as follows:

4 Claims 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EP (0,936,609 A2).

In response to the Examiner's indication in the Office Action of November 1, 2005, claims 13 and 14 have been amended.

The Examiner, in paragraph 6 of the Office Action of November 1, 2005, further indicates as follows:

6 Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP ('609) in view of EP (0980072 A1).

In response to the Examiner's indication in the Office Action of November 1, 2005, claims 1 and 2 have been amended. The present invention defined in currently amended claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the cited documents EP (0,936,609 A2) and EP (0980072 A1) by the following reasons.

The constituent features of the optical disk driving apparatus defined in currently amended claim 1 are as follows:

- (1) a housing; and
 - (2) an optical disk driving unit accommodated in the housing,
 - (2a) a turntable for selectively retaining the optical disks,
 - (2b) a supporting member for rotatably supporting the turntable,
 - (2c) a base plate pivotably retained by the housing,
- a plurality of vibration isolators intervening between the supporting member and

the base plate,

(2d) a supporting member fixing mechanism operative to assume two operation states including one state to prevent the vibration isolators from isolating the supporting member from outside vibrations, and the other state to allow the vibration isolators to isolate the supporting member from the outside vibrations,

(2e) a base plate driving mechanism for allowing the base plate to be pivotably moved with respect to the housing, the base plate driving mechanism being operative to assume two operation states including one state to allow the base plate to take a first position, and the other state to allow the base plate to take a second position, and

(2f) a cam gear for transmitting a rotation torque to the supporting member fixing mechanism to have the supporting member fixing mechanism selectively assume the operation states, and transmitting the rotation torque to the base plate driving mechanism to have the base plate driving mechanism selectively assume the operation states.

From the elements (2d) to (2f) of the optical disk driving apparatus defined in currently amended claim 1, it will be understood that the optical disk driving apparatus according to the present invention defined in currently amended claim 1 comprises an optical disk driving unit including a supporting member fixing mechanism operative to assume two operation states including one state to prevent the vibration isolators from isolating the supporting member from outside vibrations, and the other state to allow the vibration isolators to isolate the supporting member from the outside vibrations, a base plate driving mechanism for allowing the base plate to be pivotably moved with respect to the housing, the base plate driving mechanism being operative to assume two operation states including one state to allow the base plate to take a first position, and the other state to allow the base plate to take a second position, and a cam gear for transmitting a rotation torque to

the supporting member fixing mechanism to have the supporting member fixing mechanism selectively assume the operation states, and transmitting the rotation torque to the base plate driving mechanism to have the base plate driving mechanism selectively assume the operation states.

The cited document EP (0,936,609 A2) fails to disclose an optical disk driving apparatus comprising an optical disk driving unit including a supporting member fixing mechanism operative to assume two operation states including one state to prevent the vibration isolators from isolating the supporting member from outside vibrations, and the other state to allow the vibration isolators to isolate the supporting member from the outside vibrations, a base plate driving mechanism for allowing the base plate to be pivotably moved with respect to the housing, the base plate driving mechanism being operative to assume two operation states including one state to allow the base plate to take a first position, and the other state to allow the base plate to take a second position, and a cam gear for transmitting a rotation torque to the supporting member fixing mechanism to have the supporting member fixing mechanism selectively assume the operation states, and transmitting the rotation torque to the base plate driving mechanism to have the base plate driving mechanism selectively assume the operation states.

The cited document EP (0980072 A1) fails to disclose an optical disk driving apparatus comprising an optical disk driving unit including a supporting member fixing mechanism operative to assume two operation states including one state to prevent the vibration isolators from isolating the supporting member from outside vibrations, and the other state to allow the vibration isolators to isolate the supporting member from the outside vibrations, a base plate driving mechanism for allowing the base plate to be pivotably moved with respect to the housing, the base plate driving mechanism being operative to

assume two operation states including one state to allow the base plate to take a first position, and the other state to allow the base plate to take a second position, and a cam gear for transmitting a rotation torque to the supporting member fixing mechanism to have the supporting member fixing mechanism selectively assume the operation states, and transmitting the rotation torque to the base plate driving mechanism to have the base plate driving mechanism selectively assume the operation states.

The optical disk driving apparatus defined in currently amended claim 1 is completely different in construction from the disclosure of each of the cited documents EP (0,936,609 A2) and EP (0980072 A1).

It will, therefore, be appreciated from the foregoing description that the optical disk driving apparatus defined in currently amended claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the disclosure of each of the cited documents EP (0,936,609 A2) and EP (0980072 A1).

Claims 2, 13 and 21 are dependent on the currently amended claim 1 which is believed to be patentably distinguishable over the disclosure of each of the cited documents EP (0,936,609 A2) and EP (0980072 A1) as will be understood from the previously mentioned reasons. New claim 22 is dependent on the new claim 21 which is believed to be patentably distinguishable over the disclosure of each of the cited documents EP (0,936,609 A2) and EP (0980072 A1) as will be understood from the previously mentioned reasons. New claim 23 is dependent on the new claim 22 which is believed to be patentably distinguishable over the disclosure of each of the cited documents EP (0,936,609 A2) and EP (0980072 A1) as will be understood from the previously mentioned reasons. Claim 14 is dependent on the amended claim 2 which is believed to be patentably distinguishable over the disclosure of each of the cited documents EP (0,936,609 A2) and EP (0980072 A1) as will be understood from the previously mentioned reasons. It is,

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therefore, believed that claims 2 , 13, 14 and 21-23 are patentably distinguishable over the disclosure of each of the cited documents EP (0,936,609 A2) and EP (0980072 A1) on the basis of the same reasons as above.


In view of the foregoing description, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is thus in condition for allowance.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication which are not covered by an enclosed check, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 35966.

Respectfully submitted,

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